

most harmoniously in a temperate climate. In the soil surface features and climate of a locality there may exist stimulating or directing elements which are too subtle to be detected in the present state of our knowledge. This supposition is strengthened by the closeness with which some species of plants and animals are localized within their habitats, and even more by the replacement of one species by a closely related species on the further side of a geographical boundary line. In India, for instance, the black francolin of the northern alluvial districts gives place on the peninsular plateau to the painted francolin : there are three varieties of hares, each confined to its particular region : the Indian peacock is in Burma replaced by a species in which the green colour is more predominant. These species differ from one another by peculiarities of marking or colour which cannot be directly associated with any feature of the environment. Yet it is difficult to believe that environal influences did not contribute to the spread of these distinctions until they became universal throughout the species.

It follows that the features and characters of the different races of mankind may, in great measure, be the outcome of the environment in which these races have lived during a long course of generations : racial peculiarities that are now

innate and heritable may have been in the first instance derived from soil, geographical features, or climate. This theory will be strengthened if we find that similar conditions, in widely separated regions of the earth, are accompanied by similar innate peculiarities of feature and disposition. Around the globe a dark complexion is almost invariably associated with a tropical sun. As a rule it grows darker with approach to the equator,